

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TITLE Finsterwalde Airfield 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 25 March 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 - two sketches on ditto

REMARKS

RETURN TO CIA  
1-22-52

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1. Between 8 a.m. and noon on 22 February 1952, three dark painted twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assemblies and one dark painted twin-engine plane with a single rudder assembly were observed in front of the western hangars at Finsterwalde. It rained continuously. There was no flying. No soldiers were observed except a sentry at the dump in the northern section of the field. (1) Red markers were observed at the runway and on its western extension. (2) Two white flags were stuck into the ground on both sides of the runway at its half-way mark. A strip was cut into the woods in the eastern extension of the runway.

2. Between 10 and 15 February, three large snow plows and 50 to 60 men with shovels cleared the runway and taxiway of snow and sanded it. A crane was on top or in front of the third hangar from the east. This hangar is probably used as a repair hangar. A radio installation with one mast about 15 meters high was observed near Querschel. The mast which was braced at three points had insulators at its top from which three antenna wires extended to the ground. A telephone line led from the radio installation to the airfield. (3)

3. Various installations in Finsterwalde were occupied by Soviet Air Force troops. (4) On 3 February, a radio installation with four masts and a tent in the middle was observed in the yard of a building. (5) The radio installation was removed on the morning of 4 February. On the morning of 13 February, radio truck was observed in front of the German automobile repair shop Spahn on Grosse-Ring-Strasse. A small generator was being removed from the radio truck, which had a tactical symbol on both doors. (5)

4. On 26 February, individual flights were made by five type-27 jet bombers B-25s and Pe-2s, up to 10 March. Beginning 11 March, formation flying was practiced in groups of two and in flights. On the morning and afternoon of 5 March, 8 jet bombers, 12 Pe-2s and 2 B-25s were counted at the field. Thirteen other planes, probably Pe-2s and B-25s, were also stationed at the field.

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CLASSIFICATION

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5. Aircraft observed at the field between 8 February and 5 March, primarily during flying activity, included 4 jet bombers [redacted] 2 twin-engine planes with nose wheels, 3 twin-engine, low-wing monoplanes with double rudder assemblies, and 3 twin-engine transports, probably DC-3s. More aircraft were probably parked in the hangars. The three DC-3s landed at the field on 8 February. At 2:30 p.m. on 16 February, six Pe-2s took off, assembled in a formation and flew away. Their return was not observed. The twin-engine planes with nose wheels [redacted]

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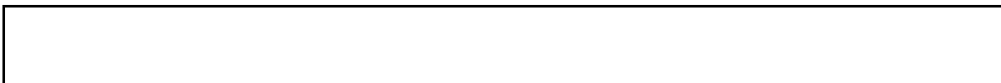
[redacted] had no cupola aft of its cockpit, but a streamlined body, while [redacted] had a cupola but the body was not similar.

6. The following flying activities were observed at the field between 8 February and 5 March:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
8 February	2:30 p.m.	3 DC-3s landed
12 February	1:30 p.m.	1 jet bomber circled
13 February	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	jet bombers and twin-engine planes with nose wheels circled individually
14 February	11 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.	3 DC-3s practiced flying
	after 1 p.m.	1 twin-engine plane with a nose wheel circled
15 February	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	3 DC-3s and 1 twin-engine plane with a nose wheel circled individually
16 February	2:30 p.m.	6 Pe-2s departed in formation
26 February	1:30 to 4 p.m.	jet bombers and 1 twin-engine plane with a nose wheel flew individually
5 March	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	jet bombers, twin-engine planes with nose wheels, DC-3s and Pe-2s circled individually

There was no flying from 9 to 11, from 17 to 25, and from 27 to 29 February, or on 3 and 4 March.

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[redacted] Comments.

- (1) For layout sketch of airfield, see Annex 1.  
 (2) For sketch of the marker, see detail sketch on Annex 1.  
 (3) For location of radio installation, see Annex 2. The radio installation is the outer landing beacon.

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- (4) For town map with nine detailed items, see Annex 3. The buildings on Forststrasse, item 1 on map, probably are the bomber corps headquarters.
  - (5) The building referred to in # 8 on Annex 3.
  - (6) For sketch of tactical symbol, see detail sketch on Annex 1.
  - (7) The report confirms that the airfield is occupied by conventional and jet bombers. The planes belong to two regiments, the pilots of which have retrained on jet bombers since January 1952. [redacted]
- [redacted] the two OATDs of the regiments were supplied with fuel. [redacted] In addition to Pe-2s, the regiments are equipped with B-25s and type-27 and type-30 planes which were probably turned over to the regiments by the Northern Air Div.

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Annex 3

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Legend to Finsterwalde Town Map, Status of 15 February 1952.

- 1 Buildings on Forststrasse occupied by headquarters. Roads in front of installation are blocked. Main guard in northeastern corner. Entrance from Forststrasse. Installation is surrounded by a board fence, except on western side where there is a wire fence. Radio installation in northwestern corner.
- 2 Viktoria Hotel, housing komendatura and motion picture theater for Russians, surrounded by wall; no sentries.
- 3 Quarters for headquarters personnel; administration buildings of former screw factory. Only entrance at Friedrich-Engel-Strasse, permanently guarded. Installation surrounded by board fence.
- 4 Former high school building, now used as a Russian hospital.
- 5 Motor vehicle repair shop, formerly storage facility of a construction firm; entrance from Stalinplatz, south of installation. Four buildings northeast of installation border on Klara-Zetkin-Strasse, formerly Bismarckstrasse, occupied by EM. Entire installation surrounded by high board fence; no sentries observed; gates always closed.
- 6 Main warehouse in a former free mason lodge. Entire area can be observed; no sentries. At night, all windows of installation lighted.

Former Villa Thierack, now Russian workshop, Germans are also employed there. Entire installation can be observed, but no sentries were seen.

Quartering and storage facilities of a transportation unit. Three villas with annexes are occupied. Garages for 12 motor vehicles were recently constructed in the yard. Installation occupied by 80 to 90 men. No sentries were observed because the wooden gate was always closed.

Quarters for officers dependents on Schacksdorfer Strasse.

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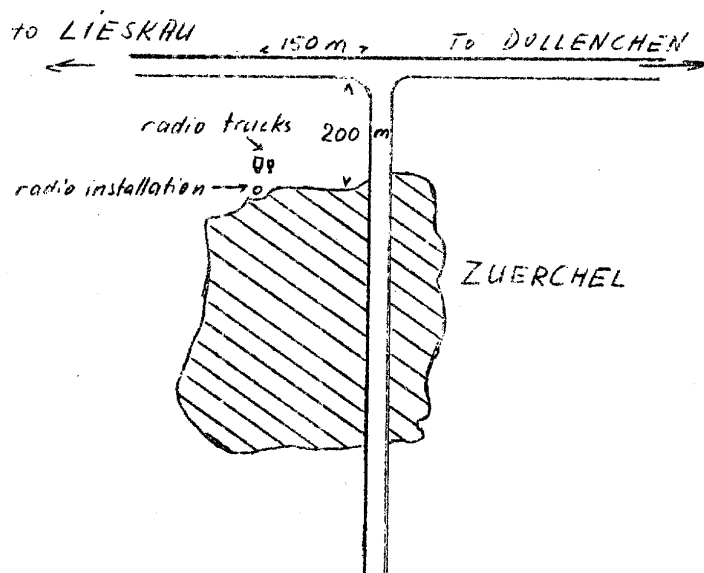
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Annex 2

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Location Sketch of Radio Installation Near Zuerchel

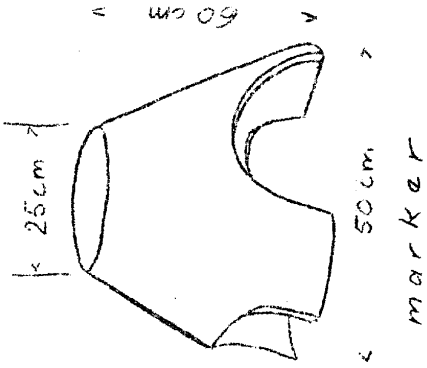


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Annex 1



Tactical Symbol Observed on  
Radio Truck in Finsterwalde



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SCHACKSDORF

